

of the Government. An investigation into the causes of the recurring outbreaks of dysentery and diarrhoea, which account for the greater portion of the sickness in the Jail, is now being made by the Darbar Physician.

8. Criminal Justice.—Under Criminal Justice, I would note the larger number of juveniles now being sent to the Reformatory ; also, the unfortunate increase in the prosecution of public servants, which rose from 123 to 202 cases, the percentage of conviction falling from 6 to 2.

9. Civil Justice.—A readjustment of the territorial jurisdiction of the several Courts was made, and in doing so, full consideration was given by His Highness Government and by the High Court to the representations made on the subject at previous Assemblies. I need hardly say that, in a matter like this, it is impossible to please everybody, and I would ask the Assembly to seriously consider whether the time has not come when we may leave this question alone, at any rate, for a few years. The Law College was strengthened during the year in response to the recommendations of the Madras University Commission ; and a suitable building for housing the College is now under construction.

10. Registration.—The Registration Regulation was amended and re-enacted during the year ; also, revised Rules were passed under the new Regulation ; and the table of fees was also revised. The number of documents registered rose substantially ; the result of it all was that the receipts of the Department rose from Rs. 4,00,099 to Rs. 4,97,899, and though the expenditure also rose, the ratio of expenditure to gross income fell from 35% to 31%. The reorganisation of the Department (involving a substantial increase in the expenditure of the Department) came into operation only towards the close of the year. It is pretty certain that, in 1088, the percentage of expenditure to the gross income will go up.

11. Agriculture.—The season was, on the whole, favourable to agriculture. The large increase in prices which has taken place throughout India during recent years, has also occurred in Travancore ; the wages of labour have also risen substantially ; Dr. Kunjan Pillai's Department continued to do good work, and His Highness' Government noted with pleasure the increasing interest taken by the people in what, after all, would always continue to be the main industry of the country.

12. Public Works.—The total expenditure on Public Works—including Irrigation—reached the high figure of Rs. 27,66,222. The following figures showing the outlay on Public Works for a series of years, will, probably, be found instructive :—

1082	...	...	Rs. 18,29,253
1083	...	...	Rs. 20,16,641.
1084	...	...	Rs. 23,79,300.
1085	...	...	Rs. 28,15,950.
1086	...	...	Rs. 25,64,540.
1087	...	...	Rs. 27,66,222.

The needs of the country in the matter of communications and other works are being pressed upon the Government with increasing insistence year after year in the Assembly, and it is inevitable, therefore, that, with increasing financial prosperity, the outlay on Public Works should go up.